

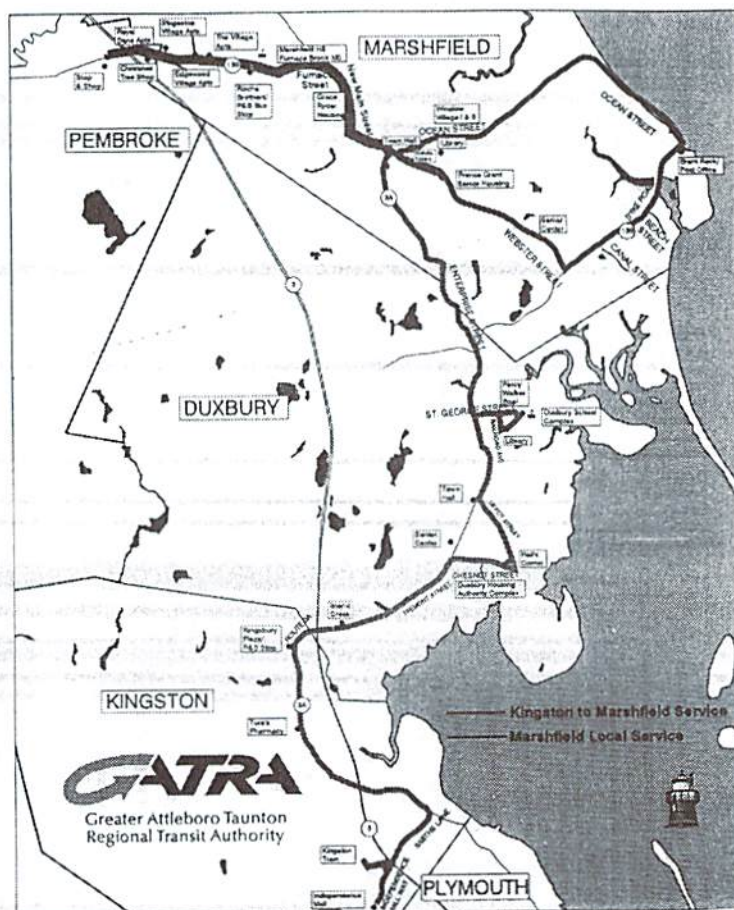
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THINKING GREEN

Not only is the new bus service a cheap, easy way to get around, but it's a nearly effortless way to do your part to reduce traffic, pollution, dependency on imported oil and to slow down global warming. Furthermore, you can save a bundle of moolah.

Starting Dec. 1, GATRA (Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority) inaugurates an hourly bus service with pick-up/drop off stops near Island Creek, Duxbury Senior Center, Hall's Corner, Town Hall and the Library and Percy Walker Pool.

The Southbound bus leaves from Stop & Shop on Route 139 in Marshfield. Turning south onto Route 3A it makes its first Duxbury stop at the



The GATRA bus route, set to start Dec. 1, will connect Duxbury, Plymouth and Marshfield.

Percy Walker Pool/Duxbury school complex on St. George Street and then at the Library on Alden Street. It continues south on 3A (Tremont Street) to Town Hall. Then it heads down Depot Street to stop at the Post Office / Foodies parking lot. Returning to 3A via Chestnut Street, the bus goes to the Senior Center before continuing south to the Island Creek complex. Then it's on to Kingsbury Plaza and the Independence Mall.

Three special GATRA express runs in the morning and evening will serve Duxbury commuters who take the Boston bound train from Kingston Station or the bus from Kingsbury Plaza. Each of these GATRA buses picks up at Hall's Corner, The Senior Center and Island Creek. Free parking is available at all these locations. The commuter service is speedy and more economical than driving yourself (almost \$5/day less, if you include all parking and car operating expenses).

Consider the advantages of the GATRA bus service over driving yourself.

Cost: A typical commuter can expect to save about \$1,140 a year (\$1,000 in parking fees plus \$ 500 in car operating expense minus \$360 for 12 GATRA monthly passes). Seniors, students, disabled/ Medicare card holders and those who walk or bike to a

GATRA stop could save over \$1,300.

Greenhouse Gases: Every busload of Duxbury commuters who formerly drove to the station would reduce yearly CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions by 95,000 pounds.

Health and Longevity: Walking or biking to a GATRA bus stop three times weekly is a foolproof way to get the aerobic exercise you need to become healthier and live longer.

The reason a GATRA bus ride costs as little as 50¢ to \$1 and a monthly pass only \$15-\$30 is that fares are subsidized. Much of the cost of the service is provided by a suburban mobility grant from the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization, funded by annual state assessments for the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority. Duxbury, like other towns in the region, is required to pay these assessments. Now, for the first time, we are going to receive benefits from them.

Someone who is a better mathematician than I has calculated that a person who rides public transportation reduces carbon dioxide output by 4,800 lbs. annually, more than they could by a host of other means.

If that, plus the cost, safety and health benefits of using the new GATRA service haven't convinced you, could it be that you have missed the bus?